

TEXAS STATE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

June 1, 2007

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

RE: PS Docket No. 07-8; CC Docket No. 94-102; WT Docket Nos. 03-264; 06-150, 06-169 and 96-86; EB Docket No. 06-119

Chairman Martin:

The Texas State Association of Fire Fighters (TSAFF) promotes a safe and healthy working environment for fire fighters and emergency medical or rescue workers and works through modern technology to place the members on a higher plane of skill and efficiency. There is no modern technology more important to TSAFF than high speed wireless broadband communications. The men and women placing their lives on the line every day saving the lives or property of others deserve the latest and best communications technology and applications available today.

The FCC's planned auction of frequency spectrum in the 700MHz band presents a unique and timely opportunity to join with allied partners, both public and private, to increase the quantity of available frequencies for first responder data communications and provide an opportunity to build a wireless broadband Public Safety radio communications network.

From massive wildfires to tornados and hurricanes, from terrorist threats to our infrastructure and border security issues, today's public safety personnel in Texas must be prepared to respond to all types of emergencies. Therefore, on behalf of the members of TSAFF, I respectfully request your support for a National Public Safety Broadband Network.

In seeking FCC support, TSAFF respectfully requests:

- That 10MHz of the 700MHz band currently scheduled for auction by the FCC under the DTV transition act should be made available under rules that require the winner of the auction to have a binding agreement with Public Safety for its participation in the National Public Safety Broadband Network as a prerequisite to receiving their license.
- That the FCC license Public Safety's 700 MHz spectrum to a stand alone entity consisting of Public Safety leaders who will control the network and ensure it will be built to the standards of reliability and redundancy that Public Safety requires.
- Ensure the build out of the National Public Safety Broadband Network will reach rural and underserved areas. Public Safety and those we protect must have access to a "universal" system. Furthermore, Public Safety must have access to a satellite overlay to extend the reach

- of Public Safety's network to cover areas where a terrestrial build is non-economic and as a back up in times of disaster when existing infrastructures are unavailable.
- The National Public Safety Broadband Network be kept "evergreen" enabling the system to remain competitive on the commercial side and while ensuring the highest level of technology to Public Safety users.

TSAFF asks that the Commission place the interests of public safety and the lives of those we protect first. Please enable public safety to build our National Public Safety Broadband Network.

Respectfully,

Guy F. Turner

President

Texas State Association of Fire Fighters

325-669-7413 (cell)

cc: The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison

The Honorable Gene Greene

The Honorable Ralph M. Hall

The Honorable Charles A. Gonzalez

The Honorable Michael C. Burgess

FCC Secretary Marlene H. Dortch

The Honorable Michael J. Copps

The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein

The Honorable Deborah Tate

The Honorable Robert M. McDowell

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